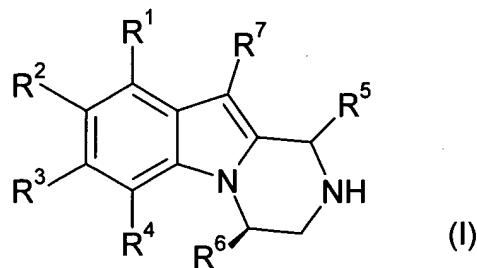


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound according to claim 1, wherein A chiral compound of formula (I)~~



wherein

-R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy-or heteroeyethyl;

with the proviso that at least one of the moieties R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ is not hydrogen; and

R⁵ is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁶ is alkyl or cycloalkyl; and

R⁷ is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio;

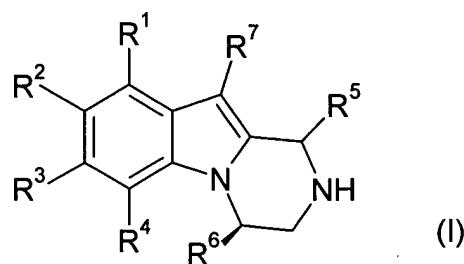
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt,

a hydrate, or

a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

3 – 32. (Canceled).

33. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a chiral compound according to formula (I)



wherein

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxy carbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy and heterocyclic, or R^3 and R^4 form together a $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-$ group;

with the proviso that at least one of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen;

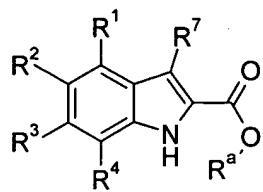
R^5 is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R^6 is alkyl, or cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl; and

R^7 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxy carbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio;

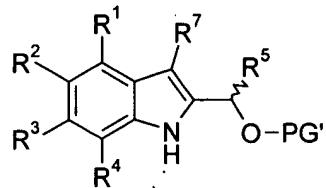
comprising alkylation of a compound selected from the group consisting of

a)



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, and R⁷ are as defined above,

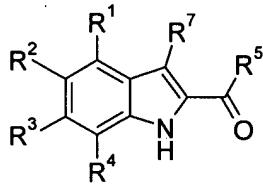
b)



E

wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, and R⁷ are as defined above, and PG' is hydrogen or an OH-protecting group, and

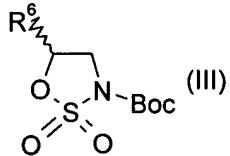
c)



Z

wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, and R⁷ are as defined above;

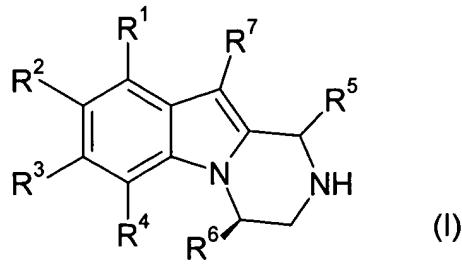
with a compound of formula (III)



wherein R⁶ is as defined as above.

34. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as set out in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically

acceptable ester thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient, wherein the compound is a chiral compound of formula (I)



wherein

R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy, or R³ and R⁴ form together a -CH₂-CH₂-CH₂- group;

with the proviso that at least one of R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ is not hydrogen;

R⁵ is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁶ is alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl; and

R⁷ is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio.

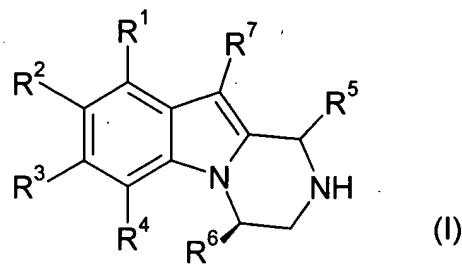
35. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein

R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy;

with the proviso that at least one of the moieties R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ is not hydrogen; and

R⁶ is alkyl or hydroxyalkyl.

36. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R⁶ is methyl.
37. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R⁵ is hydrogen.
38. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy.
39. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 38, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen or methyl.
40. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy and cyano or R³ and R⁴ form together a -CH₂-CH₂-CH₂- group.
41. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40, wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, trifluoromethyl and cyano.
42. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and trifluoromethyl.
43. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42, wherein R⁴ is methyl or ethyl and R¹, R² and R³ are hydrogen.
44. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42, wherein R⁴ is fluoro, cyano or trifluoromethyl and R¹, R² and R³ are independently selected from hydrogen or methyl.
45. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the compound is a chiral compound of formula (I):



wherein

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that at least one of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen;

R^5 is methyl;

R^6 is alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl; and

R^7 is hydrogen or methyl.

46. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

47. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 46, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

48. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

49. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 48, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

50. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

51. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 50, wherein the compound is (R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

52. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

53. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 52, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

54. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

55. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 54, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

56. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

57. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 56, wherein the compound is (R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

58. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
59. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 58, wherein the compound is (R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.
60. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
61. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 60, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile or the hydrochloride salt thereof.
62. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.
63. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 62, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the oxalate salt thereof.
64. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of
(R)-6-thienyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;

(R)- 6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl -1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile; and
(R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

65. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(S)-(7-Methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indol-4-yl)-methanol;
(S)-(7-Trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indol-4-yl)-methanol; and
(R)-10-Methyl-2,3,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-1H-8,10a-diaza-cyclopenta[c]fluorine;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

66. (New) The compound according to claim 2, wherein R⁶ is alkyl.

67. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R⁶ is methyl.

68. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R⁵ is hydrogen.

69. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy.

70. (New) The compound according to claim 69, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen or methyl.

71. (New) The compound according to claim 2, selected from the group consisting of:

(R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole; and
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

72. (New) The compound according to claim 71, selected from the group consisting of:
(R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole; and
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.